

REMARKS

Claim Status

After entry of the above amendments, claims 13-21, 29, 30, 35, 52, 55, and 56 will be pending in the application. This paper amends claims 13, 29, 35, and 52; and cancels claims 1-12, 22-28, 31-34, 36-51, 53, 54, and 57-67 without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 13, 29, 35, and 52 are the independent claims of the application.

Interview Summary

Applicant and the undersigned attorney thank the Examiner for courtesies extended during a brief telephonic interview on March 8, 2007. No exhibits were shown, no demonstrations were conducted, and prior art was not discussed during the interview.

Claims 19-21 were discussed. Applicants' representative pointed out that rejected claims 19-21 depend from claim 13, which the Final Office Action indicated would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base and intervening claims. Agreement was reached to the effect that claims 19-21 would be allowed after claim 13 is rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of its base claim and intervening claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants and the undersigned attorney gratefully acknowledge the notification in the Final Office Action of patentable subject matter in claims 13-18, 29, 30, 35, 52, 55, and 56; and notification of patentable subject matter in claims 19-21 during the interview of March 8, 2007.

Claim 13 has now been rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of its base claim 1 and intervening claims 2 and 3. Claim 13 should now be allowable. Claims 14-21 depend directly or indirectly from claim 13, and should therefore also be allowable.

Claim 29 has been rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of its base claim 1. Claim 29 should now be allowable. Claim 30 depends from claim 29, and should therefore also be allowable.

Claim 52 has now been rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of its base claim 45 and intervening claim 46. Claim 52 should now be allowable. Claims 55 and 56 depend directly or indirectly from claim 52, and should therefore also be allowable.

Other Claims

All remaining claims have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that all pending claims are allowable. To discuss any matter pertaining to the instant application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (858) 720-9431.

Having made an effort to bring the application in condition for allowance, a notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 9, 2007

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